



# AFSCME Facts

## Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Funding In the American Rescue Plan March 24, 2021

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, substantially increases substance abuse and mental health services funding. These increases supplement previous funding provided through the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) of 2021 and regular FY 2021 appropriations. This fact sheet provides an overview of these funding increases.

### **How much new funding is provided for mental health and substance abuse services, programs and providers?**

The American Rescue Plan provides \$3 billion in block grants to address mental health and substance abuse issues and \$640 million more for crisis intervention services, community health clinics and other community-based services.

Program	Appropriation	Notes
<b>Community Mental Health Services Block Grant</b>	\$1.5 billion	Available through Sept. 30, 2025. For the single state agency that receives these grants.
<b>Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant</b>	\$1.5 billion	Available through Sept. 30, 2025. For the single state agency that receives these grants.
<b>Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) Expansion Grant Program</b>	\$420 million	Not all states have CCBHCs. These grants may not be available statewide.
<b>Community-Based Funding for Local Behavioral Health Needs</b>	\$50 million	Grants are available for states; local, Tribal and territorial governments; Tribal organizations; and primary and behavioral health organizations to address increased behavioral health needs worsened by the pandemic.
<b>Community-Based Funding for Local Substance Use Disorder Services</b>	\$30 million	Grants are available for states; local, Tribal and territorial governments; Tribal organizations; and primary and behavioral health organizations to support overdose prevention programs, syringe service programs and other harm reduction programs.
<b>Youth Suicide Prevention Programs</b>	\$20 million	Grants to states, public organizations, private non-profits and higher education institutions.
<b>Pediatric Mental Health Care Access</b>	\$80 million	Grants to states, local governments, and Indian tribes and tribal organizations to promote behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care.

<b>Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education)</b>	\$30 million	Supports school-based mental health for children. Grants are typically made to state education agencies, which work with local education agencies.
<b>National Child Traumatic Stress Network</b>	\$10 million	Funds work addressing the problem of high-risk or medically-underserved individuals who experience violence-related stress. Grants generally are made to a coordinating center and other organizations.

**What new funding is provided to support the behavioral health care workforce and other health care workers?**

The American Rescue Plan includes \$240 million to provide education and training for the behavioral health care workforce and support the mental health of health care workers.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Appropriation</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program</b>	\$100 million	Grants for programs training behavioral health professionals and paraprofessionals (such as peer support specialists).
<b>Funding for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Training for Health Care Professionals, Paraprofessionals &amp; Public Safety Officers</b>	\$80 million	Grants to states, local governments, health professional schools, other appropriate public and private organizations for programs for reducing and addressing suicide, burnout, mental health conditions and substance use disorders among health care professionals.
<b>Education &amp; Awareness Campaign on Health Care Professionals Work Conditions</b>	\$20 million	Funding for a CDC-led national awareness campaign to encourage prevention of mental health conditions and substance use disorders among health professionals and emergency responders.
<b>Health Care Provider Grants to Promote Mental Health among Health Professional Workforce</b>	\$40 million	Grants for health care providers, provider associations and federally qualified health centers to promote mental health among their providers, other personnel and members.

**Is there other supplemental COVID-19 health care funding that could affect providers of mental health and substance abuse services?**

The American Rescue Plan provides an additional \$15 million for optional Medicaid-covered mobile crisis intervention services for five years following enactment. These planning grants are for states to develop state Medicaid plan amendments or Medicaid section 1115, 1915(b), or 1915(c) waiver requests (or amendments to such waivers) to provide these services, which do not have to be statewide or to give individuals a choice of provider. States that implement this program will receive an 85% federal Medicaid match for 12 fiscal quarters.

**How will the American Rescue Plan's additional support affect behavioral health and substance abuse services in my state?**

To learn more about supplemental behavioral health and substance abuse COVID-19 funding in your state, go to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) FY 2021 websites: [Community Mental Health Block Grant Program COVID-19 Supplemental Awards](#) and FY 2021 [Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Program COVID-19 Supplemental Awards](#). For information about formula and discretionary SAMHSA funding in your state, go to the agency's [SAMHSA Grant Awards By State](#) website. Other grant funding focused on the health care workforce is administered primarily by the Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Information about that funding will become available in the future as HRSA begins to announce grant opportunities and accept applications from eligible governments and other organizations.